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1957/58

ROYAL ALBERT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April, 1957, to 31st March, 1958

OCT 14

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL—MAIN ENTRANCE

Patron—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

ROYAL ALBERT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1st APRIL, 1957, to 31st MARCH, 1958

Hospitals in the Group :

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL, LANCASTER

Under the Patronage of

H.M. The Queen

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL, WESTMORLAND

Chairman :
JOHN WELCH, Esq., C.B.E., M.A., LL.B.

Medical Superintendent :
R. C. CUNNINGHAM, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.P.M., D.P.A.

Secretary/Finance Officer :
Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

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ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman :

JOHN WELCH, Esq., C.B.E., M.A., LL.B., Hampson, Galgate, Lancaster.

Members :

R. F. C. BUTLER-COLE, Esq., Fell End House, Hale, Milnthorpe.

J. E. CHAPMAN, Esq., M.B.E., Leck Hill House, Cowan Bridge, via Carnforth.

S. P. B. CULLEN, Esq., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., 2, Queen Square, Lancaster.

Mrs. B. V. GADDUM, Braban House, Burneside, Kendal.

J. E. GREAVES, Esq., 12, Newsham Road, Bowerham, Lancaster.

R. W. P. HALL, Esq., M.C., L.R.C.P. and S., L.R.F.P. and S., J.P., Brandle How, Bowness-on-Windermere.

Alderman Miss A. A. KENYON, J.P., 177, Grange Avenue, Oldham.

Miss F. M. OPENSHAW, Fairfield, Hoyle's Lane, Cottam, near Preston.

J. T. PARKINSON, Esq., High Trees, Deep Cutting, Lancaster.

Councillor Mrs. E. M. PATTINSON, J.P., Gossel Ridding, Windermere.

F. F. PEARSON, Esq., M.A., M.B.E., J.P., Gressingham Hall, Hornby.

Mrs. D. P. TOMB, 14, Castle Park, Lancaster.

Alderman Sir THOMAS S. TOMLINSON, J.P., Ellerhow, Grange-over-Sands.

S. S. T. WALLEY, Esq., Abbeystead, Lancaster.

A. WHITEHEAD, Esq., J.P., Woodfield, Caton.

J. L. WILD, Esq., M.A., M.B., B.CH., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Divisional Health Offices, Ulverston.

Group Secretary :

Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

Offices :

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL, LANCASTER

Telephone : Lancaster 4953.

RESIDENT MEDICAL STAFF

Medical Superintendent and Consultant Psychiatrist:
R. C. CUNNINGHAM, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.P.M., D.P.A.

Deputy Medical Superintendent:
WM. GRAHAM, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.).

Junior Hospital Medical Officers:
S. K. BANERJEE, M.B. (Calcutta).
A. J. SKENTELBERY, M.B., B.CH.

VISITING MEDICAL STAFF

ROYAL ALBERT GROUP

S. BALL, Esq., M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Assistant Venereologist.
G. M. BARRETT, Esq., B.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., Physician.
C. BORLAND, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Anæsthetist.
J. BROWN, Esq., M.B., CH.B., D.M.R.D., Radiologist.
E. A. J. BYRNE, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.P., Pediatrician.
E. H. COOPER, Esq., F.D.S., R.C.S., Dental Surgeon.
W. P. G. DICKSON, Esq., M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.O.G., Gynæcologist.
E. P. H. DRAKE, Esq., M.B., B.CH., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., General Surgeon.
W. G. L. FLATHER, Esq., M.B., CH.B., D.O.M.S., Ophthalmologist.
G. FREEMAN, Esq., B.M., B.CH., F.R.C.S., D.L.O., E.N.T. Surgeon.
J. S. GLENNIE, Esq., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Thoracic Surgeon.
W. J. HAY, Esq., M.C., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Physician.
F. HILLMAN, Esq., M.B., B.CH., Assistant Pathologist.
E. HOLMES, Esq., M.B., F.R.C.S., Gynæcologist.
P. JEWSBURY, Esq., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., B.SC., Thoracic Surgeon.
A. K. KARFOOT, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Assistant Anæsthetist.
A. KILPATRICK, Esq., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., Assistant Anæsthetist.

Visiting Medical Staff (contd.).

I. D. KITCHIN, Esq., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), Orthorpædic Surgeon.
J. F. MACKAY, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Venereologist.
W. MAGAURAN, Esq., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Assistant Surgeon.
P. J. MURPHY, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Anæsthetist.
D. W. PURSER, Esq., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Traumatic and Orthopædic Surgeon.
A. G. RICKARDS, Esq., M.D., CH.B., Pathologist.
R. H. SEVILLE, Esq., M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.P., Dermatologist.
O. H. SIMMS, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Anæsthetist.
C. V. STEVENSON, Esq., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H., Chest Physician.
A. J. STOUT, Esq., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Oto-Laryngologist.
N. WILD, Esq., F.D.S., Orthodontist.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

N. F. AUSTIN, Esq., F.B.O.A., F.N.O.A., Ophthalmic Optician.
G. HARDY, Esq., B.D.S., Dental Surgeon.

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

P. S. BYRNE, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Visiting Medical Officer.
J. ROBINSON, Esq., L.D.S., Dental Surgeon.

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman :
Dr. R. C. CUNNINGHAM.

Secretary :
Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

Members :
The Senior Medical Officers on the Staff of the Hospitals in the Group, with Dr. R. W. FARQUHAR (Divisional M.O.H.), and the Visiting Consultants and Specialists.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Group Secretary and Finance Officer:
Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

Group Supplies Officer:
Mr. T. A. McHALE, A.H.A.

Superintendent Engineer:
Mr. H. LEACH, F.I.H.E., A.M.TECH.I., A.I.RAD.E.

Chief Pharmacist:
Mr. J. O. LACEY, M.P.S.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

Matron: Miss S. M. COLLINGWOOD.
Chief Male Nurse: Mr. T. HUDSON.
Farm Manager: Mr. W. WOOF.

Chaplains:
Church of England: Rev. E. J. HOUGHTON, M.A.
Non-Conformist: Rev. J. G. DOUGLAS.
Roman Catholic: Very Rev. Monsignor R. O. BRIMLEY.

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

Superintendent: Mr. T. W. FOSTER.
Matron: Mrs. D. FOSTER.

Chaplains:
Church of England: Rev. E. B. KITTS.
Roman Catholic: Rev. T. W. WHELAN.

Presentation to Mr. D. P. Sturton on the Opening of Sturton Home, 27th September, 1957

REPORT

of the

ROYAL ALBERT

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1st April, 1957, to 31st March, 1958.

IN presenting their Ninth Annual Report, the Royal Albert Hospital Management Committee have to record that this year, in common with other Hospital Management Committees throughout the country, they celebrate the completion of ten years within the National Health Service.

Looking back over this decade they hope to be forgiven for reflecting with a certain amount of satisfaction upon what has been achieved, whilst at the same time fully recognising how much reason they have to be thankful for the wonderful heritage which they took over in 1948. Never can the Committee sufficiently express their gratitude for those who, through generosity, far-sightedness and ability, had under the voluntary system brought the Royal Albert to the position which by 1948 it had reached in the field of mental deficiency treatment. Nor are they unmindful of how much they owe to the devoted service throughout the years of a succession of enlightened Medical Superintendents, whose memory is being perpetuated by the giving of their names to different wards in the Hospital.

The Committee wish in addition to record their appreciation of the valued assistance and encouragement which they have received from the Ministry of Health and the Regional Hospital Board. Much of this help has been on the financial side, and while it is

impossible in these days either to satisfy everybody's requirements or to provide for more than a small proportion of the many very desirable improvements, it has been found practicable by careful planning and some resourceful ingenuity, substantially to improve the environment and material comforts of both the patients and those whose duty it is to care for them.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

Of the four members due to retire on 31st March, 1958, only Dr. J. de Ville Mather was not reappointed by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, in furtherance of a policy which has enabled Alderman Mrs. A. Rainford, M.B.E., since 1953, Mr. A. Hickling since March, 1957, and now Dr. J. de Ville Mather since last March, to be still continuing much useful public work in other directions. Dr. Mather, in spite of the distance he had to travel, was exemplary in his regular attendance at meetings, and in his unflagging interest in our affairs, especially on the medical side. We do regret the loss of his services to the Committee, and wish here to record our gratitude for his valued co-operation and cheerful companionship during the past ten years.

Mr. J. E. Greaves, who has been appointed to fill the vacancy, has taken a close interest in the Royal Albert Hospital for a number of years, and a cordial welcome is extended to him.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Royal Albert Hospital on 27th September, 1957, when the adoption of the Annual Report was proposed by Mrs. Gaddum and seconded by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Lancaster (Councillor T. S. Hayton). Other speakers were Dr. R. W. Farquhar, Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Mrs. E. M. Lancaster, President of the Lancaster and Morecambe Business and Professional Women's Association, and the Rev. Canon A. E. Nock.

This day was made notable by the opening, on the conclusion of the Meeting, of the Sturton Home and the Tomlinson Home by Mr. D. P. Sturton and Alderman Sir Thomas S. Tomlinson, J.P., respectively, after which short prayers of dedication were offered by the Hospital Chaplains. Photographs of the opening ceremonies will be found in the pages of this Report.

FINANCE.

Details of the expenditure incurred during the year under review, as compared with that during the previous year, are as follows:

HEAD OF EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31st March, 1957	Year ended 31st March, 1958
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	180,783	202,600
Provisions	45,327	52,670
Staff Uniforms and Patients' Clothing ...	8,646	10,971
Drugs, Dressings, Medical and Surgical Equipment	2,061	2,507
Fuel, Light, Power, Water and Laundry ...	23,977	29,100
Maintenance of Buildings, Plant and Grounds	15,372	21,586
Domestic Repairs, Renewals and Replacements	9,331	8,007
Other Expenses	23,125	30,602
GROSS HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE ...	308,622	358,043
Less Direct Credits—Staff Board and Lodging, Trading Services, etc. ...	25,645	28,814
NET HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE ...	282,977	329,229
Add Central Administration Expenditure	683	578
Allowances to Patients on licence ...	1,135	1,026
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	284,795	330,833

It is important to note that, although there has been an increase of £46,038 in the overall expenditure, £23,350 of this is directly attributable to the bringing into service of 108 beds in Sturton and Tomlinson Homes.

ENDOWMENT FUND.

The Committee acknowledge with sincere gratitude the receipt of legacies from the late Miss S. L. Barron, of Carlisle, and Mrs. E. V. Mahler, Prestbury, as well as numerous donations at Christmas and throughout the year, as a result of which extra entertainments and comforts of many kinds have been provided for the patients and staff.

From the money which has accumulated in this fund during the past ten years as a result of legacies and donations, added to our share of the income from the Ministry of Health's Central Endowment Fund, the Committee have at last undertaken the levelling of the sports field at the Royal Albert Hospital. This is a costly scheme and is going to take nearly two years to complete, but it is an improvement which the Committee have had in mind for many years and will give the Royal Albert the recreational facilities and interest which a hospital with so large a resident population can justly claim as necessary.

In spite of the severe handicaps arising from the ownership of an unsatisfactory ground, the football and cricket teams have on many occasions done remarkably well in the local Leagues, and in competition with other hospitals. The completion of the scheme which is now being undertaken should give them added encouragement, as well as providing training and recreational facilities of a really high order.

STAFF.

The Committee have always felt a pride in that spirit of happiness which exists at the Royal Albert and Milnthorpe Hospitals, and which has so often been the subject of comment by those visiting these hospitals.

There is no doubt that this spirit—which we do not claim to be unique—has been built up over the years by a loyal and devoted staff, many of whom have spent the best part of their lives in the hospital service and have never spared themselves in caring for the mentally defective.

To all those who are carrying on this work to-day in whatever capacity—and they number over 400 in all—the Committee are very grateful.

We would like here to record our special appreciation of the service given by the following members of the staff who have retired during the past year:

Miss E. Ford, Laundress—26 years' service.

Miss E. M. Heywood, Assistant Supervisor—14½ years' service.

Mrs. E. Pym, Tailoress—19½ years' service.

Mr. J. T. Stephenson, Night Superintendent—35 years' service.

To all of them we wish many years of happiness and good health in their retirement.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

During the past year the main kitchen has been extensively reorganised, and some important new items of equipment installed, with the object of enabling it to

provide more efficiently for the needs of the large patient population, including those now accommodated in Sturton and Tomlinson Homes. By this means, and a small increase in the financial allocation, a number of improvements have been incorporated in the dietary, including fried fish and chipped potatoes which are very much appreciated.

The quarters for resident male staff have been reconditioned and re-furnished, and are greatly improved. A number of new radiators have been installed so as to improve the comfort heating during the winter months in a number of patients' dormitories, as well as in some of the administrative departments. The conversion of part of the old laundry building for use as a new Occupation Centre for male patients has been completed, and is going to be a most valuable addition to the occupational facilities. Many other minor improvements were carried out during the year, including the re-surfacing of the back road, previously composed of stone setts and therefore unsuitable for wheeled trolleys and other small vehicles so essential to a hospital with scattered buildings.

The farm has again had a most successful year, the attested herd being maintained at a very high standard. The Hospital gardens, in which a large number of patients do valuable work, are always a joy to the eye, and on the productive side provide most of the vegetable needs of the Hospital kitchen.

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

At this Hospital 90 medium and low-grade cases continue to be looked after and made happy by a small and devoted staff.

The Committee have been seriously concerned over the need for increasing the number of qualified nurses, of whom there is at present only one in addition to the Matron. This is the more difficult because those who are best suited for the work seem to have little or no inclination to live in the country. The Committee are nevertheless confident that a solution can and will be found.

The quality of Milnthorpe Hospital was well expressed by a Commissioner of the Board of Control in his report of a recent visit, in these terms:

> "This is a homely little Hospital which owes much to Mr. and Mrs. Foster, the Superintendent and Matron."

CONCLUSION

While the introduction of shorter hours of work for many sections of the Hospital staffs has given them more up-to-date working conditions, the Committee feel it is important not to overlook the fact that this change has thrown an added strain on those who hold the senior administrative positions.

They therefore wish to take this opportunity of recording their appreciation of the way in which these additional responsibilities are being shouldered, in particular by the Group Secretary, the Supplies Officer, the Matron and the Chief Male Nurse at the Royal Albert Hospital, and by Mr. and Mrs. Foster at Milnthorpe.

Dr. Cunningham, the Medical Superintendent, is deserving of a special word of gratitude. The modification

in the procedure for admitting patients, and the further changes foreshadowed by the proposed new legislation, have thrown a great personal responsibility upon him, which he is carrying in a way which inspires the confidence of the Committee no less than that of his subordinates.

I cannot conclude this Report without again expressing my sincere appreciation, as Chairman, of the generous and loyal support afforded by every member of the Committee, and it is I think noteworthy to recall that among them are four who share with me the privilege of having served the Royal Albert as members of the Central Committee for a considerable number of years before the Appointed Day.

It is in the spirit which the Committee have tried to reflect in the pages of this Report that they hope in the future to continue to play their part within the framework of the National Health service.

JOHN WELCH,

CHAIRMAN.

3rd September, 1958.

REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting the medical and ancillary report for the period 1st April, 1957, to 31st March, 1958.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

The following table gives the statistics of admissions and discharges :

	Male	Female	Total
I. Admissions	125	11	136
II. Place of Safety	1*	—	1
III. Temporary Patients	9	3	12
IV. Licence Cases: 1st April, 1957	14	8	22
31st March, 1958	12	9	21
V. Discharges :			
Discharged from the Acts	14	4	18
Transferred to other Hospitals	10	3	13
Transferred to Guardianship	1	—	1
Died	8	3	11

* Died of influenzal pneumonia before certification.

The general health of the patients remained satisfactory, apart from an occurrence of influenza in the autumn of 1957 and the beginnings of a protracted

outbreak of Sonne dysentery in the spring of 1958. Prompt isolation, good nursing care, preventive inoculation and modern therapy did much to control the more than usually serious type of influenza and to minimise its complications. A total case incidence of 334 resulted in only two deaths among the patients.

On the other hand the dysentery cases are proving unusually difficult to treat, and the organism concerned appears to be considerably resistant to even the most potent antibiotics. This heightens the nuisance value of this illness within a closed community.

Preventive inoculations and diagnostic aids were again adopted in the light of the needs of the total situation, *e.g.*:

Mantoux Tests—

Female staff	...	31
Male staff	...	28
Female patients	...	2
		61

All responses were positive and the need for B.C.G. inoculation did not arise.

Inoculation against Asian Influenza—

Female staff	...	53
Male staff	...	48
		101

Vaccination against Smallpox—

Junior patients	...	64
Adult patients	...	48
Male staff	...	3
		115

The incidence of successful response in the form of "takes" was over 95%.

The amount of acute nursing in mental hospitals is often overlooked, and the following turnover figures for the Rodgett Infirmary are of interest :

Acutely ill patients	male 176 ; female 140
Permanent and semi-permanent resident...	male 27 ; female 16
Grand total ...	359

When one reflects upon the temperamental instability and non-co-operation of many of these patients one realises that bare statistics conceal, rather than reveal, the very high quality of nursing care and skill demanded —and given—in this particular ward.

Sixteen patients underwent surgical operations, and it is satisfactory to report that all recovered—or are in the process of recovering—from the underlying illness which made intervention necessary.

The practice of relieving Milnthorpe Hospital and also the acute beds in the Royal Lancaster Infirmary by very early re-acceptance of our surgical patients has been continued and further developed.

Deaths during the period under review were attributed to the following causes :

CAUSE OF DEATH	Males	Females	Total
Congestive Cardiac Failure ...	—	1	1
Myocardial Fibrosis	1	—	1
Paroxysmal Tachycardia	1	—	1
Valvular Disease of the Heart (Congenital)	1	—	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1	1	2
Acute Lymphatic Leukæmia ...	1	—	1
Influenzal Pneumonia	—	1	1
Broncho-pneumonia	2	—	2
Raynaud's Disease	1	—	1
	8	3	11

Two new drugs were introduced for therapeutic trial, namely *Cogentin* for Parkinsonism and *Saluric* as a diuretic in fluid retention cases.

In compliance with the Agriculture (First Aid) Regulations, 1957, suitable kits were issued for use by the farm and garden personnel.

Ophthalmic and dental care continued on customary lines :

OPHTHALMIC

	Male	Female	Total
Testing	50	45	95
Pairs of Spectacles issued	40	40	80
Checking of Issues	38	40	78
Repairs to Spectacles	53	33	86
	181	158	339

DENTAL

	Male	Female	Total	Temp. Pat'nts
Fillings	16	16	32	—
Extractions (L.A.)	84	38	122	—
Extractions (G.A.)	55	12	67	2
Dentures (fitted)	7	2	9	—
Dentures (repaired)	9	7	16	—
X-Ray	1	1	2	—
No. of Attendances	522	268	795	5

SCHOOL AND FEMALE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY.

Numbers on School Register :

	Under 16			Over 16			Grand Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1/4/57 ...	41	23	64	8	—	8	72
31/3/58 ...	45	17	62	10	—	10	72

The number on roll (72) has been constant, but during the year 109 children have attended school.

Accommodation difficulties—referred to in previous reports—and the general trend towards lower grade admissions made problems for all concerned, so much so that an independent assessment was made in order to guide the Committee towards a possible solution.

The occupational therapists achieved a very high standard of craft workmanship and, at the Lancaster Agricultural Show alone, twelve prizes were awarded to our patients.

Staff and other re-organisations in the occupational therapy department have made possible a welcome extension of therapy to the general wards of the Hospital. In particular the patients in Storey Home, Cavendish Home and Rodgett Infirmary have benefited from this development.

TRAINING.

The following table shows the dispositions throughout the year :

	Males		Females		Total	
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Occupational Therapy	9	9	30	110	39	119
Farm and Garden	48	51	—	—	48	51
Laundry	5	5	18	14	23	19
Kitchen	—	—	9	7	9	7
Vegetable House	6	6	—	—	6	6
Sewing Room	5	5	1	8	6	13
Tailoring	24	23	—	—	24	23
Shoemaking & repairing	29	29	—	—	29	29
Carpentry	4	4	—	—	4	4
Upholstery/Brushmaking	8	8	—	—	8	8
Mat and rug making	44	44	—	24	44	68
Basketwork	10	10	—	—	10	10
Boiler House	4	4	—	—	4	4
Printing	3	3	—	—	3	3
Plasterers	1	1	—	—	1	1
Painting	2	2	—	—	2	2
Baking	6	6	—	—	6	6
Mattress making	40	41	—	—	40	41
Stores	10	10	—	—	10	10
Plumbers' Shop	3	3	—	—	3	3
Cafeteria	7	7	—	—	7	7
Dining Hall	—	—	10	10	10	10
Messengers	4	4	—	—	4	4
Ward Work only	223	222	125	61	348	283
Dustmen	5	5	—	—	5	5
Odd Jobs	3	3	42	2	45	5
Hairdressing (Monday)	—	—	1	—	1	—
Total No. employed	503	505	236	236	739	741
Unemployable	140	140	66	66	206	206
On Licence	12	12	9	9	21	21
Daily employment	6	6	2	2	8	8
Schools—over 16	6	4	—	—	6	4
,, —under 16	45	45	17	17	62	62
Total No. on books	712	712	330	330	1042	1042

Work began on the conversion of part of the old laundry site into a new occupational and training department for male patients, and this should form a useful addition to the older facilities of the Storey Workshops in due course.

Constant change, innovation, learning by trial and error and, indeed, repetition of the old, is required in the training projects for males. This elasticity of approach is dictated by the heterogeneous abilities of entrant patients and their increased rate of turnover. It is consequently in the interests of the patients and staff alike, bringing to the latter challenge and variety.

INTERNAL ECONOMY.

Progress in decor and general up-grading has been furthered by work carried out in the resident male nurses' quarters and in various corridors and dormitories. The main kitchen is in the process of complete reorganisation and the final section of the rear road has been re-surfaced.

The authority of the Regional Board has been obtained for the appointment of a Catering Officer, and of a Senior Psychologist. The former should relieve the onerous load carried by the Matron and the Supplies Officer, and the latter make possible an interesting extension of the services—both intra- and extra-mural—provided by the Hospital.

THE 4TH LANCASTER GIRL GUIDE COMPANY AND THE 22ND LANCASTER SCOUT TROOP.

I am indebted to Captain D. M. Grant and Scoutmaster G. D. Parsonage for the undernoted reports—

Guide Company.

No. in Company—2 Guiders, 17 Guides.
New Recruit 1, Leavers, 5.

Badges gained during period under review:
Second Class, 3. Proficiency, 8.

Total number of badges held by present Guides:
Second Class, 10. Proficiency, 28.

Items of Interest.

We were glad to welcome Miss C. Hunt to help in running the Company. As a Guider of many years' experience, and as a member of St. John's Ambulance Brigade, her help is very valuable in many aspects of training.

Outside contacts were maintained by attendance at local Church Parades and other Guide functions, and three book covers were embroidered by members for presentation to Overseas Guides at the Extension World Camp. The annual party arranged by the Fylde Trefoil Guild took place on 6th July, and was much appreciated by the Guides who attended.

A pantomime, "*Puss in Boots*," was presented by the Company as a contribution to the Christmas festivities.

Scout Troop.

Troop strength—2 Scouters, 33 Scouts.

Badges gained 1957/58—

Tenderfoot, 9. Second Class, 10. Proficiency, 4.

Patrols—Darwen, Wingate, Mallory and Drake.

Camp—14 days at Silverdale.

Events—

April, 1957. New Scout Headquarters opened by Miss E. Thwaites.

Presentation to Alderman Sir Thomas S. Tomlinson, J.P., on the Opening of Tomlinson Home, 27th September, 1957

Mr. E. White was appointed Assistant Scoutmaster and presented with a warrant by Mr. H. Todd, District Commissioner.

The Troop took part in a Scouting Display on the Giant Axe Field, and provided the first aid tent.

A potato-pie supper was organised in January, 1958.

An extra Patrol (Darwen) was formed, as was a training team from among the older scouts.

Scout Meetings were held every Friday evening.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

The Chaplain's Report gives details of the facilities for spiritual development among the patients but, as in so many other aspects of our subject, words hardly do justice to the therapeutic quality of these services.

RECREATION.

The increased discharge rate among male patients naturally affected the numbers available for sporting activities. It is, therefore, gratifying to record a qualitative improvement among those remaining, and this was reflected in the fact that the football team gained 4th place in the Regional Hospital League. The cricket enthusiasts were also successful and finished sixth in their League. Both the football and cricket teams travelled far and wide, and I learned with pride of the spirit of good sportsmanship amongst all participants.

VISITS.

As in previous years every encouragement has been given to the visitation of the Hospital by people interested in our work, and I have continued my practice of public addresses over a wide radius.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Lancaster, together with Management Committee members, visited the wards during the Christmas period.

NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL.

Statistics are as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Student Nurses, 31/3/57	13	14	27
Student Nurses, 1/4/58	15	19	34
Student Nurses:			
Entering Service	12	9	21
Leaving	4	6	10
Re-graded	1	—	1
Qualifying S.R.N.M.D. ...	2	1	3
Passing State Preliminary Examination, Part I	4	5	9
Part II	1	3	4
Passing P.T.S.	8	6	14

One male and ten female student nurses in training at the close of the financial year were former Cadets. This is a potent reminder of the importance of the Hospital Cadet scheme as a source of recruitment to an essential service.

Preliminary consideration was given to the General Nursing Council's Experimental Syllabus and a modified version of this, adapted to suit local needs, was later submitted for approval by the Council.

The usual extra-mural visits were maintained, and enlarged by the inclusion of visits to a recently constructed sewage disposal works within easy distance of the Hospital.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE LAW RELATING TO MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL DEFICIENCY (1954-57).

By command of Her Majesty the Report of the Royal Commission was presented to Parliament in May, 1957. The numerous and far-sighted recommendations, even if shaped only broadly by Parliament into law, will change considerably the traditional approach to mental deficiency practice.

Certain of the more obvious beneficial alterations have already been sanctioned by Ministry of Health Memorandum H.M. (58) 5, issued in January of this year. This makes Informal admissions possible in certain cases, and lays upon individual Medical Superintendents the responsibility of recommending decertification and transfer to Informal status of patients judged suitable for this in relation to the triad of mental stability, home circumstance and relatives' attitude. These welcome steps will place the majority of our patients on terms of administrative equality with those admitted to general hospitals.

The recommendations indicating the abolition of certification and the curtailment of compulsory care, together with those proposing the introduction of local Mental Health Review Tribunals, are sound advances. Those concerning nomenclature and classification of patients are fraught with more difficulties, and it would appear that second thoughts will be necessary not only here but also in relation to the over-generous time basis of the appeal mechanism.

It would be more than a pity if high-grade patients of the future—and particularly those with the milder delinquent traits—found their opportunities for rehabilitation and resocialisation baulked by legislation which permitted diversions away from our well-tried systems,

or allowed too little time in which to achieve a therapeutic response without disturbing administrative intermissions for the patient.

Those with the knowledge and welfare of the mentally deficient at heart—parents, relatives, Committee members and organised public opinion alike—will do well to study the Bill with care in all its stages through the House.

Let criticism be of an enlightened nature and our motives utilitarian—the greatest welfare for the greatest number.

CONCLUSION.

My thanks are due to the staff for invaluable co-operation, and to the Chairman and Members for sympathetic understanding.

R. C. CUNNINGHAM,
Medical Superintendent.

3rd September, 1958.

REPORT OF THE FREE CHURCH CHAPLAIN AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

On Tuesday, 6th May, with the hearty co-operation of the Management Committee, the Revs. E. A. J. Miller (Church of England) and Dr. D. O. Beckerlegge (Free Church), who are Chaplains to the Castleberg Hospital for Mental Defectives, Giggleswick, met my colleague (Rev. E. J. Houghton) and myself for an informal exchange of views regarding the work of a Hospital Chaplain. The Medical Superintendent (Dr. R. C. Cunningham), in a brief speech, welcomed our visitors ; he then left the four of us to confer upon the work we are seeking to do for those who have been committed to our spiritual care. After a break for lunch (kindly provided by the Management Committee), the Chaplains made a tour of the Hospital. All agreed that this had proved a most useful and profitable experience.

The men and women of the Cavendish and Diggens Homes greatly appreciate the short religious services held each month. We are grateful to the Head Gardener who provides beautiful flowers for the white-clothed table in the wards—a service which adds reverence to the Act of Worship.

Over the past six months experiments have been made by the Rev. E. J. Houghton with a view to the introduction of gramophone records of five well-known

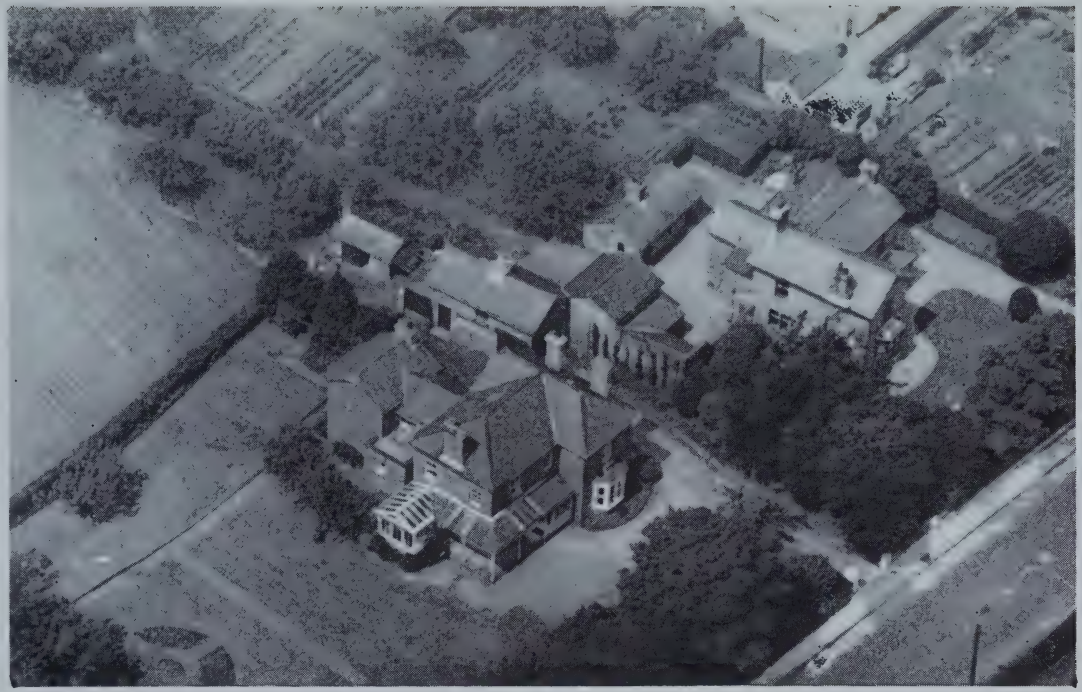
hymns, as a help to our singing. We hope that the Management Committee will, by a grant of money, assist Mr. Houghton to add to his selection.

Regular visitation of the various wards, homes, workshops, schoolrooms and therapy departments is undertaken by the Chaplains every week. The Thursday evening religious services grow in numbers and interest, and I have encouraged some of the higher grade patients to read the Lessons from time to time; this assists their mental and spiritual development. I have also invited members of my Church Choir to visit the Thursday service, at which they render sacred solos.

Finally I would like to thank the organist, Mr. W. Marshall, and Mr. W. R. Palmer for their much-appreciated assistance. In all of our varied forms of service, we, as Chaplains, value the fine co-operation of the members of the staff in every branch.

J. GREIG DOUGLAS,
Free Church Chaplain.

4th September, 1958.



DEEP CUTTING—Senior Nurses' Home, from the air

Printed at the
Royal Albert Hospital,
Lancaster

R 813
1959/59

ROYAL ALBERT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April, 1958, to 31st March, 1959

1959

ROYAL ALBERT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1st APRIL, 1958, to 31st MARCH, 1959

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ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL, LANCASTER

Under the Patronage of

H.M. The Queen

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL, WESTMORLAND

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Medical Superintendent :
R. C. CUNNINGHAM, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.P.M., D.P.A.

Secretary/Finance Officer :
Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

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1958/59

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Group Secretary :

Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

Offices :

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL, LANCASTER

Telephone : Lancaster 4953.

RESIDENT MEDICAL STAFF

Medical Superintendent and Consultant Psychiatrist:
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Deputy Medical Superintendent:
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Junior Hospital Medical Officers:
S. K. BANERJEE, M.B. (Calcutta).
A. J. SKENTELBERY, M.B., B.CH.

Senior Clinical Psychologist:
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N. WILD, Esq., F.D.S., Orthodontist.

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MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

P. S. BYRNE, Esq., M.B., CH.B., Visiting Medical Officer.
J. ROBINSON, Esq., L.D.S., Dental Surgeon.

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Major R. H. WELCH, D.S.O., F.H.A.

Group Supplies Officer :
Mr. T. A. MCHALE, A.H.A.

Superintendent Engineer :
Mr. H. LEACH, F.I.H.E., A.M.TECH.I., A.I.RAD.E.

Catering Officer :
Mr. R. A. GROOMBRIDGE, A.M.H.C.I.

Chief Pharmacist :
Mr. J. O. LACEY, M.P.S.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

Matron : Miss S. M. COLLINGWOOD.
Chief Male Nurse : Mr. T. HUDSON.
Farm Manager : Mr. W. WOOF.

Chaplains :
Church of England : Rev. E. J. HOUGHTON, M.A.
Non-Conformist : Rev. J. G. DOUGLAS.
Roman Catholic : Very Rev. Monsignor R. O. BRIMLEY.

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

Superintendent : Mr. T. W. FOSTER.
Matron : Mrs. D. FOSTER.

Chaplains :
Church of England : Rev. E. B. KITTS.
Roman Catholic : Rev. T. W. WHELAN.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

Patron—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

REPORT

of the

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1st April, 1958, to 31st March, 1959.

THE Royal Albert Hospital Management Committee have for many years been adapting the Royal Albert to the gradually changing approach to the treatment and care of mental defectives. With other hospitals similarly placed, they have sincerely welcomed the acceptance of this more enlightened attitude, and are continuing to do all they can to encourage the trend of public opinion in this direction.

Since the publication of the Committee's Ninth Annual Report a year ago, remarkable progress has taken place. Measures have been introduced by the Ministry of Health under which most of our patients can enter and leave hospital on an informal basis without having to comply with numerous legal formalities, the necessity for which many people just could not understand.

This procedure, leading up to new legislation which will in most cases do away with the necessity for certification, has attracted a great deal of public attention. There has also been much criticism, and although some of this has been sadly ill-informed, there can be no doubt that the "new look" which has come to the mental

deficiency service is going to be of lasting benefit, not only for those requiring special care, but also to those who have the duty of ensuring that their particular needs are fully met.

It is with the application of these new conditions, and their concern that the facilities afforded by the Hospital should be brought fully up to date so as to be in keeping with them, that the Committee have been mainly concerned during another year.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

Of the four members due to retire on 31st March, 1959, Mr. J. E. Chapman, M.B.E., Mr. J. T. Parkinson and Mrs. Tomb were each reappointed for a further term of three years. Alderman Sir Thomas S. Tomlinson, J.P., who had served continuously since he was first appointed a Lancaster member of the old Central Committee in 1929, regretfully did not feel able to consent to his name going forward to the Regional Board for a further term.

Sir Thomas was an original member of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and this contact, as well as long experience as Chairman of the County Health Committee, made him most helpful on our Hospital Management Committee, especially as Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee from the Appointed Day until March, 1952. His extensive experience, sound judgment and quick decisions will be greatly missed. The Tomlinson Home, however, which he opened in 1957, remains as a constant reminder of his intense interest in the work of the Royal Albert.

The Committee sincerely welcome in his place Councillor C. Preston, of Lancaster, appreciating that he will be able to bring to the work of hospital management much useful experience in other directions.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Royal Albert Hospital on 24th September, 1958, when the adoption of the Annual Report was proposed by Mr. F. F. Pearson, M.B.E., M.A., J.P., and seconded by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Lancaster (Mr. Councillor James Rogerson). Other speakers were His Worship the Mayor of Morecambe and Heysham, Dr. J. L. Wild (Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Ulverston), Mrs. C. B. Mann (President of the Inner Wheel Club of Lancaster), and Mr. F. E. Totten.

FINANCE.

Details of the expenditure incurred during the year under review, as compared with that during the previous year, are as follows:

HEAD OF EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31st March, 1958	Year ended 31st March, 1959
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	202,600	220,069
Provisions	52,670	58,299
Staff Uniforms and Patients' Clothing	10,971	9,351
Drugs, Dressings, Medical and Surgical Equipment	2,507	2,428
Fuel, Light, Power, Water and Laundry	29,100	32,111
Maintenance of Buildings, Plant and Grounds	21,586	19,301
Domestic Repairs, Renewals and Replacements	8,007	7,857
Other Expenses	30,602	31,695
GROSS HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE	358,043	381,111
Less Direct Credits—Staff Board and Lodging, Trading Services, etc.	28,814	31,072
NET HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE	329,229	350,039
Add Central Administration Expenditure	578	558
Allowances to Patients on licence	1,026	960
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	330,833	351,557

It will be observed that there was an increase of approximately £21,000 in the overall expenditure compared with the previous year, and that this was mainly due to the increased cost of salaries and wages. Some improvements in the patients' dietary accounted for £5,629, and a further £2,300 arose out of increases in the scales of comfort money and working pay for patients.

ENDOWMENT FUND.

Through this fund the Committee are able to provide the patients with many of the things which do so much to break down what is sometimes called "the hospital atmosphere," thus enabling them to think less of the handicaps from which they suffer, and more of the pleasures derived from popular forms of entertainments, organised games and companionship. These amenities, in which the staff also have a share, vary from Christmas festivities and picnics at the seaside, to birthday tea parties and visits to the circus.

The fund is largely dependent for its income upon the Central Endowment Fund, formed in 1948 by the Ministry of Health from the resources of the transferred voluntary hospitals. Substantial contributions are also received in the form of legacies and donations, many of them from patients' relatives and friends. Such generous support, much of which comes as an expression of gratitude for care and kindness, is not only of great benefit to the patients themselves, but also gives much encouragement to the staff and the Committee.

STAFF.

There has been an appreciable improvement in the staffing position generally, especially in relation to the recruitment of male nurses. This is no doubt largely due to the introduction of improved rates of pay and shorter working hours for many classes of employees.

These improvements involve the finding of more money, to meet not only the increases in pay, but also the higher establishments necessary for ensuring that the nursing and other duties are fully covered on the basis of the shorter working week. Whilst the Committee sincerely welcome these measures, it is a matter for regret that the necessary finance can only be made available by a series of interim allocations spread over some considerable time.

The Committee feel confident of the loyalty, wholehearted support and enthusiasm of all classes of the staff, who in their very kind consideration of the patients are maintaining a tradition which is a most valued characteristic of the Royal Albert and Milnthorpe Hospitals. The Committee hope most sincerely that the annoyances caused by financial limitations, with which they sympathise, may now rapidly disappear.

The appointment of a Senior Clinical Psychologist for the first time has opened up a wide field for investigation and reseach, to which particular reference will be found in the Medical Superintendent's report.

The addition of a Catering Officer to the establishment has provided the Hospital with an expert on all matters appertaining to the feeding of patients and staff, including the preparation of special diets for children and those who, on account of chronic sickness or old age, are permanently accommodated in the Infirmary block.

There has been some difficulty in staffing the new Occupation Centres, due to the unfortunate necessity for competing with local authorities on somewhat unequal terms. The Committee have however been fortunate in securing a fully qualified Supervisor for the Senior Occupation Centre, in which a large number of male patients are now doing very useful training.

Dr. A. J. Skentelbery joined the Hospital staff last summer, in place of Dr. F. E. McGlashan, who resigned in June, 1958, after 7 years' valuable service as a Junior Hospital Medical Officer.

Of those who have retired on pension the following are deserving of special mention:

	Years' Service
Mrs. M. Allison, Laundress	13
Mrs. E. Bannister, Seamstress	13
Mrs. N. Cokell, Assistant Matron...	25
Mr. S. Cokell, Mat Maker	10
Mr. S. T. Dunkeld, Nursing Assistant... ...	32
Miss R. Ratcliffe, Nursing Assistant	35

The Committee thank them for their many years of devoted service, and wish them many more years of good health and happiness in their retirement.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

During the past year considerable progress has been made, within the limited finance available, towards bringing this Hospital more into line with modern requirements. The conversion of part of the old laundry block to house the Hospital stores is almost complete, except for the installation of an electric hoist, which will probably have to wait for another year. The concentration of the whole of the stores in one department for the first time will make for very much greater efficiency, and should in the long run also lead to substantial economies.

Large scale improvements to the accommodation in the Rodgett Infirmary have not got beyond the planning stage, but money has been allocated for the first phase, and it is hoped to start the work at a very early date. These improvements include not only up-grading the wards and equipment, but also the addition of modern

sterilizing apparatus. Plans are also in hand for the construction of an entirely new kitchen in the vicinity of the Rodgett Infirmary to serve all the Homes in this area.

New floor coverings and modern furniture have been introduced into many departments, and out-of-date fittings replaced in several of the sanitary annexes.

There are many at the Royal Albert who will see as the greatest improvement of all the levelling of the Sports Ground. This has now been sown and it looks marvellously well. When ready for play next year it will be a games field of which the Hospital can well feel proud, and should attract players whom the patients will benefit from watching.

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

An Inspector of the Board of Control, in a recent report, said of this Hospital:

> "This is an excellently maintained unit, and proves the argument for small self-contained units where personal attention can be given. It is rare to see such low grade patients so neatly dressed and so clean and looking so well. Over the years they have obviously been in receipt of kindly, sympathetic care and an understanding of their special needs."

It is a therefore a matter of great regret to the Committee that, on account of the continuing difficulties of obtaining sufficient numbers of staff in such an isolated country district, as well as the cost of maintaining the old buildings, serious consideration is being given to the question of reducing the 90 patients by transfer to alternative accommodation in the fairly near future, and eventually closing Milnthorpe Hospital.

It is however appropriate that this proposal should be under consideration at a time when the Superintendent and the Matron are approaching their retirement, for the conditions disclosed in the Board of Control report are due in large measure to them, and it is hard to see how it would ever be possible, in the conditions which obtain to-day, to perpetuate in these senior posts anything approaching the care and devotion which for so many years have typified the work of Mr. and Mrs. Foster.

CONCLUSION

In concluding what will be the last Report which I shall have the honour of signing as Chairman, may I reiterate how much I, personally, have been helped by the loyalty and devotion of every grade of staff from the Medical Superintendents to the newest recruits. I have, indeed, been fortunate in the support which during thirty-seven and a half years' membership of the Royal Albert Committee I have always realised to exist. If I may refer to one in particular this year it would be the Secretary/Finance Officer, Major R. H. Welch, who is due to retire on superannuation before the end of next March and whose outstanding help during the twenty-one years of his appointment has been of incalculable benefit to those working for the Royal Albert and to Chairmen in particular.

In addition may I acknowledge with gratitude the valuable assistance which I have invariably had from all members of the Committee and from many parents and from the Press.

With so many working with enthusiasm for the welfare of our patients, my association with the Royal Albert could but be inspiring and happy and one which will leave with me lasting and satisfying memories.

JOHN WELCH,

9th September, 1959. CHAIRMAN.

REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the general medical and ancillary report for the period 1st April, 1958, to 31st March, 1959. Pressure of work, mainly of a clinical survey and statistical nature, as a corollary to the issue of the Report of the Royal Commission on the law relating to mental illness and mental deficiency, has left little time for a considered review and has made necessary some reduction in the field covered.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

	Male	Female	Total
I. Admissions	33	15	48
II. Place of Safety	—	—	—
III. Temporary Patients	8	6	14
IV. Transferred to Informal Status	153	112	265
V. Licence Cases: 1st April, 1958	12	9	21
31st March, 1959	22	5	27
VI. Discharges:			
Discharged from the Acts	13	3	16
Transferred to other Hospitals	6	6	12
Transferred to Guardianship	—	—	—
Died	10	11	21

Apart from a somewhat prolonged outbreak of infective hepatitis, and a sporadic case or two of Sonne dysentry, the health of the patients has remained good and has not given cause for medical anxiety.

Emphasis was again laid on immunisation techniques and related diagnostic aids, as follows:

Mantoux Tests—

Female staff	...	29
Male staff	...	23
		52

All responses were positive and the need for B.C.G. inoculation did not arise.

Inoculation against Poliomyelitis—

Female staff	...	1
Male staff	...	2
Female patients	...	56
Male patients	...	205
		261

The extremely valuable work carried out in the nursing of the acute sick—mentioned in my last year's report—continued without intermission. Accordingly, the possibility of work commencing during 1959 on a complete reconstruction of the Rodgett Infirmary wards is very good news—and encouragement—to all who give service therein.

Deaths during the period reviewed are shown in the following table:

CAUSE OF DEATH	Males	Females	Total
Broncho-pneumonia	4	7	11
Coronary Thrombosis	2	—	2
Myocardial Degeneration	1	1	2
Paroxysmal Tachycardia	—	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1	1	2
Carcinoma of Colon	1	1	2
Uræmia	1	—	1
	10	11	21

New drugs introduced included *Distaval* (sedative), *Fentazin* (tranquiliser), *Midicel* (long-acting sulphonamide) and *Distivit* (Vitamin B_{12}, active by mouth).

By a process of internal re-organisation the pharmacy department has been raised to a most satisfactory standard of working comfort and hygienic possibility.

Dental and ophthalmic care, bringing much relief to patients, is summarised as follows:

DENTAL

	Male	Female	Barlow Home	Temp. Pat'nts	Total
Fillings	22	20	1	—	43
Extractions (L.A.)	91	38	4	—	133
Extractions (G.A.)	27	21	7	3	58
Dentures	8	4	—	—	12
Denture repairs	3	7	—	—	10
X-Ray	2	3	—	—	5
No. of Attendances	456	343	81	13	893

OPHTHALMIC

	Male	Female	Total
Eye Testing	23	38	61
Checking new Spectacles	26	36	62
Repairs to Spectacles	61	26	87
	110	100	210

SCHOOL AND FEMALE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY.

Statistics relating to school training are shown hereunder:

Numbers on Roll	Boys	Girls	Total
1st April, 1958			
Aged under 16 years	34	17	51
Aged over 16 years	10	—	10
31st March, 1959			
Aged under 16 years	31	12	43
Aged over 16 years	15	—	15

Changes in composition of School Roll

Aged under 16 years

Admitted: New Patients	6
Left: Attained 16 years of age	8
Transferred to Further Education Group ...	1
To Occupational Training	1
Transferred to Male Ward	1
On licence	3

Aged over 16 years

Admitted: New Patients	7
Transferred from Under 16 Group ...	1
Left: Failed to benefit	1
On licence	2

The high standard of female Occupational Therapy has been maintained and its extension to certain general wards has proved a most valuable help to patients and staff alike.

Twelve prizes were awarded to our patients for entries in weaving, smocking, basketry, quilting, rug-making and knitting at the Lancaster Agricultural Show.

An exhibition of work was staged at Bentham Show, and eight prizes were gained.

At the Mental Health Exhibition, held in the Town Hall in September, a large stand was devoted to patients' training, and the department was given the opportunity of showing an extensive range of occupations and activities.

NEW DEPARTMENTS.

It gives me much pleasure to refer to the opening of two new projects, namely, the Psychology Department and the Senior Occupation Centre.

The former, under the immediate direction of Miss A. Grant, will provide psychological investigation of patients, give the opportunity for additional therapy with the less handicapped and, in time, form a nucleus for investigation of problems and research.

The latter, with Mr. B. Schiphorst as Supervisor, will broaden considerably the qualitative training facilities for male patients, and so help to fill a much felt need.

The problem of occupying and training moderately and severely handicapped patients, either on the wards or elsewhere, is a growing challenge to all of us and one that will have to be faced soon—particularly by the nursing organisations—if the nurse is to maintain a central status and dignity in mental deficiency practice.

TRAINING.

The diversity of occupation and training is reflected in the customary table :

	Males		Females		Total	
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Schools—over 16	15	15	—	—	15	15
,, —under 16	31	31	12	12	43	43
Occupational Therapy	18	18	40	80	58	98
Farm and Garden	45	45	—	—	45	45
Laundry	5	5	18	18	23	23
Kitchen	—	—	9	7	9	7
Vegetable House	9	9	—	—	9	9
Sewing Room	5	5	1	8	6	13
Tailoring	22	22	—	—	22	22
Shoemaking & repairing	25	25	—	—	25	25
Carpentry	3	3	—	—	3	3
Upholstery	5	5	—	—	5	5
Brushmaking	10	11	—	—	10	11
Mat and rug making	38	38	—	24	38	62
Basketwork	13	13	—	—	13	13
Boiler House	5	7	—	—	5	7
Printing	3	3	—	—	3	3
Plasterers	1	1	—	—	1	1
Painting	3	3	—	—	3	3
Baking	6	6	—	—	6	6
Butchers	2	2	—	—	2	2
Mattress making	44	44	—	—	44	44
Stores	7	7	—	—	7	7
Plumbers' Shop	4	4	—	—	4	4
Concrete block-making	6	6	—	—	6	6
Cafeteria	7	7	—	—	7	7
Dining Hall	—	—	10	10	10	10
Dustmen	5	5	—	—	5	5
Messengers	4	4	—	—	4	4
Winmarleigh Hall	3	3	—	—	3	3
Hairdresser's assistants	—	—	1	2	1	2
Ward Work only	179	176	119	74	298	250
Odd Jobs	—	—	42	17	42	17
Total No. employed	523	523	252	252	775	775
On Licence	22	22	5	5	27	27
Daily employment	7	7	2	2	9	9
Unemployable	166	166	69	69	235	235
Total No. on books 31st March, 1959	718	718	328	328	1046	1046

INTERNAL ECONOMY.

Recent progress has been well maintained, and priorities observed within the limits set by emergency situations.

The Stores Department and the sports field have been the subjects of a satisfactory beginning to considerable re-modification, and certain of the cottage accommodation has been improved.

THE 4TH LANCASTER GIRL GUIDE COMPANY AND THE 22ND LANCASTER SCOUT TROOP.

I am again indebted to Captain D. M. Grant and Scoutmaster G. D. Parsonage, and their assistants, for voluntary contributions, so freely given to the welfare, training, betterment and enjoyment of the patients who come under their care and who look forward so much to the amenities and friendships provided.

Guide Company Report.

No. in Company—2 Guiders, 18 Guides.

New Recruits 2, Leaver, 1.

No proficiency badges were gained during the year as a start had been made on Ranger training. It is anticipated that 12 of the Guides will pass the Ranger Pre-Enrolment Test in the near future and be enrolled as Rangers.

Items of Interest.

6th September, 1958. The Guides were entertained to an afterooon on the beach at Blackpool followed by a party at Guide Headquarters, Poulton-le-Fylde. This annual outing, organised by the Fylde Trefoil Guild, is much appreciated by the Guides.

18th October, 1958. The 10th anniversary of their registration as a Girl Guide Company was celebrated by a party in Winmarleigh Hall, to which local Guides, and friends who had assisted with the Company during the years, were invited. Mrs. Miller, who as District Commissioner enrolled the original Girl Guide Company, lit the ten candles on the cake (a replica of a Guide Badge and kindly made by the Cafeteria staff) which was cut by one of the first Guides.

19th December, 1958. A Divisional Girl Guide Rally was held in Winmarleigh Hall.

2nd, 6th and 7th January, 1959. The Guides presented the pantomime "*Cinderella*" as a contribution to the Christmas festivities.

Scout Troop Report.

Troop strength—1 Scouter, 34 Scouts.

Badges gained—Tenderfoot, 8. Second Class, 5.

Proficiency Badges—Camp Wardens, 5. Cooks, 1. Handicrafts, 1.

The Scout Troop camped at Silverdale for 3 weeks—from 6th to 26th June.

Events—

3 Campfires—which incorporated extra-mural troops.

RECREATION.

Owing to ground reconstruction the patients' soccer eleven played only friendly matches, and little was lost in the way of enthusiasm.

The cricket team had an exceptionally good season and won the Regional Hospital Cup in the second year of its inception. A celebration dinner was attended by the Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee.

CAMP FIRE AT SILVERDALE

VISITS.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Lancaster, together with Committee members, visited the wards during Christmas celebrations.

A large number of people, organised in parties, saw something of the place and value of the Hospital during the year, and close contact was maintained with the University of Manchester and with the National Association for Mental Health. Students of both bodies were given extensive scope in training.

NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL.

Statistics are as follows :

	Male	Female	Total
Student Nurses, 31/3/58	15	19	34
Student Nurses, 1/4/59	20	21	41
Student Nurses :			
Entering Service	13	13	26
Leaving	5	7	12
Re-graded	4	2	6
Qualifying S.R.N.M.D. ...	—	1	1
Passed State Preliminary Examination, Part I	6	6	12
Part II	3	6	9
Passed P.T.S.	9	8	17
Failed P.T.S.	4	3	7

In addition to their customary visits our student nurses provided a first aid unit at a Church fete, partially staffed the nursing stand at the Mental Health Exhibition and gave invaluable aid in a blood donor recruiting campaign.

Two nurses on the Mental Trained Register entered the school to prepare, as post-graduates, for registration as mental deficiency nurses.

A visit was paid by an Inspector of the General Nursing Council, and it is a matter of considerable regret that the Council has not yet approved this progressive training school for adoption of the "Experimental Syllabus."

MENTAL HEALTH BILL, 1959.

New mental health legislation, arising out of the Report of the Royal Commission, is before Parliament. Comment, before amendments to the Bill are known, would be premature, but it is to be sincerely hoped that the over-all progressive spirit of reform is not hampered and ruined by eagerness out of gear with public education and with administrative and professional acumen.

CONCLUSION.

My thanks are again due to both Committee and staff for help and consideration during an active year.

R. C. CUNNINGHAM,
Medical Superintendent.

9th September, 1959.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHAPLAIN AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

It is worth observing that the work of a chaplain at a hospital is not conducted in isolation from the activities of others. Often it springs out of those activities. Invariably it is affected by them. For some time new hymns have been learnt at the chior practices and introduced into the regular church services. This has been the result of the replacement of old hymn books by the revised edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern.* Similarly, a careful revision of Christmas carols has led to the printing at the Hospital of a new Carol Book ; thus affording a wide choice of carols at Christmas. A revised Chorus Book has also been prepared. Finally, but assuredly not of least importance, provision has been made for a new electronic organ. All these things directly benefit the most important activity in our community—the worship of God.

The character of this worship was, perhaps, made most obvious at Harvest, Easter and Christmas when members of the congregation and of our organisations read the lessons and brought their gifts to the altar. The visit of the choir of Christ Church, Lancaster, during Christmastide, a very happy occasion, served as a reminder that our own rejoicing at that time was shared throughout the Church. Two excellent religious films, through their own medium, contributed to our understanding of our Lenten and Easter worship. It is, indeed, the function of a "special" service to bring out

the character of an "ordinary" service. In none of the above instances, however, was the chaplain alone concerned with the details of organisation; nor could he claim that he was concerned with them more than others.

During the period under review three of the girls were confirmed by the Bishop of Lancaster and have since taken their part in the celebration of Holy Communion. The period of preparation is not short and it is requisite that much be learned by heart. Although the chaplain conducted the preparation there were others who "heard," for example, the Creed.

The systematic visiting of the Hospital, has followed its normal course. It is the practice of the nursing staff to direct the attention of the chaplain to those who, at a given moment, may particularly desire his help. Interviews also take place and duties have been varied to allow these to occur conveniently. This has been, as always, a fruitful and important part of the chaplain's work.

It will be apparent that this Report has been cast in a particular mould. This merely reflects the fact that the work of the Church is properly conducted by all her members. Incidentally, it allows this concluding paragraph to be brief. For it need only be added explicitly that your chaplain is not unaware of how much help he has been given; nor is he unappreciative.

E. J. HOUGHTON.

C. of E. Chaplain.

21st September, 1959.

Printed at the
Royal Albert Hospital,
Lancaster

342.2
R813
1959/60

ROYAL ALBERT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April, 1959, to 31st March, 1960

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ROYAL ALBERT
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1st APRIL, 1959, to 31st MARCH, 1960

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL,
LANCASTER

Under the Patronage of
H.M. The Queen

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Senior Clinical Psychologist:

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Group Supplies Officer :
Mr. T. A. MCHALE, F.H.A., M.INST.P.S.

Superintendent Engineer :
Mr. H. LEACH, F.I.H.E., A.M.TECH.I., A.I.RAD.E.

Catering Officer :
Mr. R. A. GROOMBRIDGE, A.M.H.C.I.

Chief Pharmacist :
Mr. J. O. LACEY, M.P.S.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

Matron : Miss S. M. COLLINGWOOD.

Chief Male Nurse : Mr. T. HUDSON.

Farm Manager : Mr. W. WOOF.

Chaplains :

Church of England : Rev. E. J. HOUGHTON, M.A.

Non-Conformist : Rev. J. G. DOUGLAS.

Roman Catholic : Very Rev. Monsignor R. O. BRIMLEY.

Jewish : Rev. Dr. I. W. SLOTKI, M.A., LITT.D.

ENTRANCE DRIVE

REPORT

of the

ROYAL ALBERT

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1st April, 1959, to 31st March, 1960.

IN presenting its tenth Annual Report the Royal Albert Hospital Management Committee would record its pleasure that the strait-jacket of financial restriction is being loosened and that it has been possible to match the improvements in legislation with higher recruitment in nursing and the speeding-up of much needed improvements to the fabric of the Royal Albert Hospital.

Considering it was built almost a century ago the basic design of the main Hospital is good; the corridors are used as corridors and nowhere are they filled with tables and chairs and euphemistically called "day space."

It is true that there is a certain amount of semi-basement accommodation for which replacement and closure is the only answer, but this is confined to the men's side of the Hospital.

However much the material surroundings may be improved, the happiness and mental improvement of the patients depend on the kindliness and skill of the

nursing staff and all those in contact with the patients. The Committee pays tribute to the devoted work of its staff.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

The year under review was the last under the Chairmanship of Mr. John Welch, C.B.E., M.A., LL.B., who had been a member of the former Central Committee of the Royal Albert Hospital for 26 years and Chairman of the present Committee since its formation in 1948. In fact his family association with the Hospital covered 85 out of the 90 years that patients had been received. Many tributes were paid expressing the immense debt of gratitude which the Hospital owed to Mr. John Welch.

It is with deep regret that the death is recorded of Dr. R. W. P. Hall, M.C., on 10th January, 1960.

For a more pleasant reason the Committee lost the services of Mr. F. F. Pearson, M.A., M.B.E., J.P., on his election as Member of Parliament for the Clitheroe Division.

Mr. S. S. T. Walley also resigned after sixteen years of valuable membership.

To fill the vacancies the Regional Board appointed Mr. J. A. Black, B.A., Mr. G. P. Bowring, M.C., M.A., Mrs. M. S. Martineau, J.P., B.A., and Mrs. J. Robinson, J.P., to whom the Committee extends a cordial welcome. Mr. Bowring and Mrs. Martineau had previously been co-opted members of Sub-Committees.

FINANCE.

Details of the expenditure incurred during the year under review, as compared with that during the previous year, are as follows:

HEAD OF EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31st March, 1959	Year ended 31st March, 1960
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	220,069	246,976
Provisions	58,299	56,362
Staff Uniforms and Patients' Clothing ...	9,351	9,942
Drugs, Dressings, Medical and Surgical Equipment	2,428	2,808
Fuel, Light, Power, Water and Laundry ...	32,111	29,223
Maintenance of Buildings, Plant and Grounds	19,301	31,687
Domestic Repairs, Renewals and Replacements	7,857	8,094
Other Expenses	31,695	33,869
GROSS HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE ...	381,111	418,961
Less Direct Credits—Staff Board and Lodging, Trading Services, etc. ...	31,072	31,536
NET HOSPITAL EXPENDITURE ...	350,039	387,425
Add Central Administration Expenditure	558	584
Allowances to Patients on licence ...	960	409
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	351,557	388,418

The overall increase in expenditure compared with the previous year was almost £37,000. Of this, £27,000 was in respect of salaries and wages, partly due to various wage increases and partly reflecting an increased number of nursing staff recruited during the year. The amount spent on maintenance of buildings showed an increase of £12,000, which included £3,000 on "Deferred Maintenance."

ENDOWMENT FUND.

The Committee was very gratified to receive a legacy of £1,773 under the Will of the late Mr. Isaac Dewhirst, and a further £476 in donations.

During the year £1,600 was expended on amenities for patients and staff. Almost one half of the expenditure was on sporting activities, which play a very prominent part in the life of the Hospital. The remainder of the money was spent mainly on entertainments, including the Christmas festivities.

The Royal Albert has always been fortunate in the support it receives from relatives and friends, and the gifts received have been the means of bringing happiness and enjoyment to the patients.

STAFF.

There has been a substantial improvement in the recruitment of nursing staff, particularly on the female side where the staff is now up to full establishment.

Considerable difficulty was found in implementing the 44-hour week owing to the desire of the Committee to introduce a shift system and the wish of the staff to retain a long-day system. In the end a compromise was reached which, by giving better nursing coverage in the evenings, enables the patients to go to bed later.

The non-nursing staff remained at the same level, only the Occupation Centres being deficient on establishment.

The appointment of a full-time Physical Training Instructor has proved a very successful innovation and has been of direct benefit to the men and boys.

At the end of February Major R. H. Welch, D.S.O., F.H.A., retired from the post of Secretary/Finance Officer after 22 years' service in that capacity, and he was replaced by Mr. J. W. Aylward, F.H.A. (from York 'B' Group Hospital Management Committee) to whom the Committee extends a warm welcome.

PHYSICAL TRAINING SESSION

Other members of the staff who have retired on pension after long service are :

	Years' Service
Miss E. M. French, Head Cook	18
Mrs. S. Hargreaves, Seamstress	14
Mr. J. G. Taylor, Tailor	23
Mrs. J. Williams, Nursing Assistant	15

The Committee wishes them all a long and happy retirement.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

During the year further progress was made with the modernisation of the wards, but at a slower rate than was hoped.

Work began on the up-grading of the Rodgett Infirmary, but it was not possible to complete the first phase of the scheme by the end of March. The sanitary annexe in Tetley Ward was reconditioned.

The two waiting rooms at the main entrance were redecorated and tastefully furnished, and now provide excellent accommodation for visitors.

During an inspection of Winmarleigh Hall, the main recreational hall of the Hospital, it was found that the structural cracking which had taken place over a number of years was approaching a stage when there might be a danger of eventual collapse of part of the building. The Regional Board has put the necessary work in hand to make the building safe, but the holding of dances in the hall has been suspended and the audiences at the weekly cinema shows reduced in numbers.

An electronic organ was purchased for use in Winmarleigh Hall, which is also used for church services.

The Royal Albert Hospital has always been proud of its high standard of occupations, and during the year the Boot and Shoe Department was moved to new quarters, which had been re-decorated and re-equipped. In addition to all the shoe repairs of the Hospital, certain types of footwear are made in this department and the patients are now carrying out their work in ideal conditions.

An active Civil Defence Unit has been formed at the Hospital and weekly training sessions held in the Unit's own headquarters.

MILNTHORPE HOSPITAL

The closure of Milnthorpe Hospital has now become a reality and the transfer of the patients to other hospitals commenced in February.

A number of the staff were transferred to the Royal Albert Hospital and the remainder found local employment.

Many tributes were paid to the care and attention given to the patients at Milnthorpe Hospital, which reflect great credit on the retiring Superintendent and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Foster.

CONCLUSION

In concluding this Report the Committee wishes to express its sincere thanks to Dr. Cunningham, Medical Superintendent, for the unfailing energy he has shown in looking after the interests of the patients.

R. MACDONALD,
CHAIRMAN.

September, 1960.

REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report covering, in outline, the main aspects of a busy and interesting year. Statistics indicating the movement of patients during the period 1st April, 1959, to 31st March, 1960, are as follows:

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

		Male	Female	Total
I.	Admissions:			
	Direct	24	17	41
	Transferred from other Hospitals	33	3	36
II.	Place of Safety	—	—	—
III.	Temporary Patients	27	12	39
IV.	Transferred to Informal Status	233	57	290
V.	Licence Cases: 1st April, 1959	22	5	27
	31st March, 1960	16	2	18
VI.	Discharges:			
	Discharged from the Acts	22	9	31
	Transferred to other Hospitals	34	4	38
	Transferred to Guardianship	—	—	—
	Died	11	5	16

The general health of the patients remained satisfactory and communicable disease was at a low level,

comprising chicken-pox (2 cases), whooping-cough (2), infective hepatitis (5) and Sonne dysentery (4).

Where possible, emphasis was maintained upon preventive measures, and active immunisation of land-working patients against tetanus was continued. The Committee were advised upon, and decided to institute, the pasteurisation of all milk from our own herd. This does not, in any way, reflect upon farming methods or the health state of the animals—both factors being at a very high level indeed—but it does ensure (in the absence of extraneous contamination) consumer protection from milk-borne diseases of all known varieties.

Mantoux reactions were carried out upon 63 staff applicants and, consequent upon the previous year's campaign, the use of poliomyelitis vaccine was somewhat reduced.

Niamid, Broxil, and L—Thyroxine were among the new therapeutic preparations administered.

Ophthalmic and dental treatment summaries are given in the following tables:

OPHTHALMIC

	Male	Female	Total
No. of patients tested	31	22	53
Spectacles issued	24	17	41
Spectacles checked	24	24	48
Spectacles repaired	37	13	50

DENTAL

	Male	Female	Barlow Home	Temp. Pat'nts	Total
Fillings	13	16	1	2	32
Extractions (L.A.)	81	41	1	2	125
Extractions (G.A.)	27	15	10	11	63
Dentures	6	6	—	1	13
Denture repairs	7	2	—	—	9
Dental X-Ray	1	1	3	—	5
Total Attendance	374	371	76	35	856

During the year 16 patients died and the causes were as undernoted :

CAUSE OF DEATH	Males	Females	Total
Broncho-pneumonia	4	3	7
Pulmonary Embolism	1	1	2
Coronary Thrombosis	1	—	1
Cardiac Infarction	2	—	2
Status Epilepticus	2	—	2
Uræmia	1	1	2
	11	5	16

SCHOOL AND FEMALE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT

Numbers on School Register :	Boys	Girls	Total
1st April, 1959			
Aged under 16 years	31	12	43
Aged over 16 years	15	—	15
31st March, 1960			
Aged under 16 years	36	14	50
Aged over 16 years	8	—	8

Changes in composition of School Roll:

Left—Total 13.

7 boys aged 16+.
2 boys aged 16+ to senior training.
1 boy on attaining 16 years to senior training.
1 girl on attaining 16 years to senior training.
1 boy unsuitable for further training in School.
1 boy deceased.

Admitted—Total 12.

2 boys aged 16+.
7 boys under 16 years.
3 girls under 16 years.

At the beginning of February, 1960, a modified system of half-time attendance was introduced, in order to cater for more children. Subsequent to this the physical education of the junior boys was undertaken by the Physical Training Instructor and, to date, these arrangements have worked satisfactorily, despite some restriction in accommodation.

Liaison between the Senior Clinical Psychologist and School staff has proved valuable to all concerned. There have been monthly meetings, and the pre-admission reports continue to serve a useful purpose.

Extensive redecoration and alteration, together with considerable re-equipment of apparatus, furniture, lighting and sanitary conveniences, have raised the standard of this department to a most satisfactory level. Some understandable disruption of routine occurred during the phase of material improvement, but it is gratifying to report that the pupils' activities have reflected the progress made.

In the field of female occupational therapy, and in liaison with male departments, the innovation of providing our own self-contained display at the Lancaster Agricultural Show proved very successful. It immediately became obvious that a larger marquee would be an advantage and steps will, in due course, be taken to achieve this end.

Patients' work was again entered in open competition and fourteen prizes were won in rugmaking, quilting, weaving, basketry, soft-toy manufacture, glove-making and smocking.

At Bentham Agricultural Show, where a display of work was also arranged, one patient gained a first prize, together with a bronze medal, in the smocking exhibit.

MALE TRAINING.

The diversity of training is shown in the tables at the end of this section. All the older departments have continued to flourish under the appropriate trainers, and have provided useful occupation and diversion for those patients capable of attending. Three new sections, namely the concrete block-making department, the metal furniture reclamation unit and the senior training centre, have given yeomen service to patients and Hospital alike. The output from these departments is plainly visible for all to see, and even the most ardent of early critics must now be convinced of the potentiality possessed by severely handicapped patients.

In the senior training centre itself, Mr. Schiphorst has striven against innumerable odds—including shortage of staff—and has succeeded in bringing happiness and achievement to many patients who might, otherwise, have been too readily written off as unemployable and untrainable. The results achieved are all the more commendable when one reflects that, within this group, there are many patients additionally handicapped by acute and chronic psychoses.

There are now two dominant needs in respect of male occupation and training in this progressively evolving Hospital :

1. An increase in training staff of the proper status and calibre. If present shortages are not soon

rectified, it may be necessary to request nursing staff to extend their range of work and usefulness. This would be in the interests of all, and certainly not least in that of the nurses themselves "if"—to paraphrase what I said in my report of 1958/59—"the nurse is to maintain a central status and dignity in mental deficiency practice."

2. Considerably extended work space for both occupational and diversional therapy, together with the institution of an industrial unit where contractual work can be done, under trade union safeguards, with patients receiving a recognised wage scale on a piece work basis.

There are undoubted difficulties—but such are made to be overcome—and it is my personal hope that the local health authority and the Hospital Management Committee may be enabled to co-operate in a joint effort, so reducing exchequer expense, so providing for in-patient and out-patient treatment side by side, and so helping to breathe reality into the Minister's oft repeated appeal for co-operation and co-ordination. This is one way in which our new mental health service can be helped to function in its primary objective which is the care, training and happiness of the individual handicapped patient, not in isolation but in the company of his friends from many sources, and with the wisdom and experience of both statutory authorities as his mentor and guide.

SENIOR TRAINING CENTRE

Number of patients attending (1/4/59)	19
New admissions	20
Transfers out	6
Part-time from farm	2
Number of patients attending (31/3/60)	35

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRING

GENERAL TRAINING	Males		Females		Total	
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Schools—over 16	15	15	—	—	15	15
,, —under 16	31	31	12	12	43	43
Occupational Therapy	27	27	40	80	67	107
Farm and Garden	38	36	—	—	38	36
Laundry	7	7	18	18	25	25
Kitchen	—	—	9	7	9	7
Vegetable House	8	8	—	—	8	8
Sewing Room	5	5	1	7	6	12
Tailoring	20	20	—	—	20	20
Shoemaking & repairing	25	25	—	—	25	25
Carpentry	3	3	—	—	3	3
Upholstery	5	5	—	—	5	5
Hair-teasing and Mattress making	36	37	—	—	36	37
Brushmaking	15	15	—	—	15	15
Mat and rug making	34	34	—	24	34	58
Basketwork	12	12	—	—	12	12
Boiler House	6	6	—	—	6	6
Plasterers	1	1	—	—	1	1
Printing	3	3	—	—	3	3
Plumbers' Shop	4	4	—	—	4	4
Painting	2	2	—	—	2	2
Baking	6	7	—	—	6	7
Butchers	2	2	—	—	2	2
Ward Work only	193	191	117	75	310	266
Odd Jobs	—	—	44	19	44	19
Dining Hall	—	—	10	10	10	10
Hairdresser's assistants	—	—	1	2	1	2
Winmarleigh Hall	3	3	—	—	3	3
Stores	7	8	—	—	7	8
Woodchop'ng & Dustmen	7	7	—	—	7	7
Concrete block-making	4	4	—	—	4	4
Messengers	4	4	—	—	4	4
Cafeteria	4	5	—	—	4	5
Total No. employed	527	527	252	254	779	781
On Licence	16	16	2	2	18	18
Daily employment	1	1	4	2	5	3
A.W.L.	1	1	—	—	1	1
Unemployable	161	161	70	70	231	231
Total No. on books 31st March, 1960	706	706	328	328	1034	1034

NURSE TRAINING SCHOOL.

Statistics are as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Student Nurses, 1/4/59	20	21	41
Student Nurses, 1/4/60	14	16	30
Student Nurses:			
Entering Service	7	4	11
Leaving	5	6	11
Re-graded	—	3	3
Qualifying S.R.N.M.D. ...	5	1	6
Passed State Preliminary Examination, Part I	2	2	4
Part II	4	3	7
Passed P.T.S.	5	2	7
Failed P.T.S.	—	1	1

It is of interest to record that 11 of the nurses in training are former cadets (9 females, 2 males).

The tutor attended a 9 day course at Battersea Polytechnic on the application of the experimental syllabus.

It is gratifying to report that, after prolonged negotiations, our training school has now been approved by the General Nursing Council and the Area Nurse Training Committee for the implementation of the above mentioned Experimental Syllabus (1957). That this, itself, may soon be outmoded and overtaken by events in no way detracts from the patience and achievement of the negotiators of both sides.

A visual aid in the form of a 16 m.m. sound projector has improved the training facilities available.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT.

During the year approximately 100 patients have been interviewed for full testing, which is a lengthy and time consuming operation, including intelligence assessment, scholastic abilities and preliminary personality screening.

The department, which functions under the day-to-day control of our Senior Psychologist, Miss A. Grant, M.A., is well equipped with the apparatus required and has grown and developed since its inception in May, 1959.

As indicated elsewhere in the report, there is important liaison between this department and the school, particularly in respect of the following:

(a) All new entries are assessed for suitability, and type of training, prior to admission.

(b) Periodic re-testing at appropriate intervals is carried out.

(c) A staff meeting is held once monthly to give scope for discussion of mutual problems.

The psychologist pays peripatetic visits to the various training centres and wards, and also to the specialised therapy units such as the Guides and Scouts.

A free, open-door, hour is maintained daily between 4 and 5 p.m., so that the less handicapped patients have available to them the opportunity of voluntary counselling.

The therapy of the uncomplicated mentally subnormal patient must always be a judicious blend of authoritative and permissive discipline—whether in the ward, in a specialised training department or in a social club. The need is being progressively met and satisfied in this Hospital.

THE 4TH LANCASTER GIRL GUIDE COMPANY AND THE 22ND LANCASTER SCOUT TROOP.

Captain D. M. Grant and Scoutmaster G. D. Parsonage, together with their assistants, have again freely given of their time and energies in bringing joy and fulfilment to a large number of patients. The Guide and Scout movements have a valuable place in the therapeutic armoury available for the care and training of the mentally handicapped patient.

Guide Company Report.

No. in Company—2 Guiders, 18 Guides.
New Recruits 2, Leavers 2.

Mrs. Grant writes—

"The year has been a quiet one in the Guide Company, our activities having been curtailed by the closing of Winmarleigh Hall. This meant that the Company has had no settled meeting place and necessitated the cancellation of the Christmas concert, which was a great disappointment to all concerned.

Progress has, however, been made in the Ranger Pre-Enrolment Test and 10 Guides are almost ready for enrolment as our first Rangers.

We are most grateful to Mr. Proctor (Physical Training Instructor) for instructing the girls in squad drill, thus enabling them to pass this part of the Pre-Enrolment Test, and also for other physical training which benefited them considerably.

The Fylde Trefoil Guild once again entertained the Guides to an afternoon on the shore at Bispham, followed by a party tea at Poulton-le-Fylde Guide Headquarters, and this outing was very much enjoyed.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT—TESTING

The Guides gave £1 to the World Refugee Year Fund, and also a parcel for a child, as their contribution to the World Refugee Year Appeal. The parcel contained articles made by themselves—cotton blouse, knitted cot blanket, knitted romper suit and toys (teddy-bear, elephant and woollen balls)."

Scout Troop Report.

Troop Strength—2 Scouters, 33 Scouts.

Badges gained—Tenderfoot, 10. Second Class, 9.

Proficiency Badges—

Handyman, 4.	Cooks, 2.	Camp Warden, 3.
Handicrafts, 4.	Hobbies, 1.	Musician, 1.

The annual camp was again held at Silverdale between 19th June and 16th July. An outstanding feature was the presence at camp of an increasing number of guest patients who might, otherwise, not have had the benefit of a holiday at all. The co-operation of the Scouts and Scouters in making this development possible is much appreciated.

During the year 3 Campfires were held in association with extra-mural troops; also 2 potato pie suppers and a Christmas party.

Mr. S. Hiley was appointed Assistant Scoutmaster, and presented with his warrant by District Commissioner Todd on 11th February.

RECREATION.

In organised soccer and cricket, all games were again played away from home and the Hospital teams acquitted themselves well, despite the disadvantage under which they laboured.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The P.T. classes, very well organised by Mr. S. Proctor, are exceedingly popular with all types of patient. Much

has already been done to improve the physical stamina, increase the mental alertness, and add to the happiness of those who participate. Sporting activities of a wide variety have also been added to the curriculum and weekly evening events of an inter-ward competition type, held during the winter, proved a decided advantage in offsetting possible boredom.

The average weekly attendance at all classes was 650 patients, and I am most impressed by Mr. Proctor's initiative and interest.

INTERNAL ECONOMY.

This has been a year of relative advance, so much so that individual achievements are too numerous to mention, but plain to see. Thus the trend of recent times has been maintained, and it would now be difficult to recognise the Hospital whose portals one first crossed nearly seven years ago.

Despite this, there is no room for complacency—much remains to be done, and with the recent easement in financial stringency the time is ripe for the next move forward.

VISITS.

In accord with general policy an open-door attitude has continued in respect of a large variety of visitors. We were privileged by the presence of the Mayor of Lancaster on a brief Christmas visit.

CONCLUSION.

I would like to express thanks to the Committee, to a loyal senior staff and to my trustworthy medical officers, for help and encouragement at all times.

ROBERT C. CUNNINGHAM,
Medical Superintendent.

21st July, 1960.

REPORT OF THE FREE CHURCH CHAPLAIN AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL

Consequent upon essential work involved in the buttressing of the wall of Winmarleigh Hall, the numbers of those attending the Services on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings have had to be reduced to "a safe minimum."

Accordingly, for some months past, quite a number of male patients have attended Sunday morning service at St. Paul's Parish Church, Scotforth, while the Free Church patients attend the Baptist Church, of which I am the minister. The men thoroughly enjoy these services; they are most reverent in their conduct and are very attentive to all that is said and sung. The regular members of the Churches and congregations are happy to have "the men from the Royal Albert" worshipping with them, and give them a sincere welcome every time the weather allows them to be present.

The Service of Holy Communion, which is held for the Free Church men and women, is observed on the first Sunday afternoon of each month, now averages twenty-five. I have encouraged some of the "higher grade" patients to take part in the Thursday evening services—the men to read the Lesson, the women to sing some verses of well known hymns (chosen by themselves) as solos. During the past year four women and five men have assisted in this way—a definite exercise in therapy this—which makes for their mental and spiritual development. I have continued the holding

of brief and informal religious services for the patients in the Cavendish and Diggens Homes on Wednesday afternoons each month. Also when visiting the Storey Workshops and Therapy Department each month, we have a "break for music," when I lead the "boys and girls" in community singing. So, from this short report it will be seen that the Chaplain and patients work together happily and harmoniously.

Once again I would express my gratitude to our Organist, Mr. Marshall (who is delighted with the new organ), and to Mr. Palmer (Steward), for their much appreciated assistance. In all of our varied forms of service the Chaplains value the helpful co-operation of the members of the Hospital Staff in every branch.

J. GREIG DOUGLAS,

Free Church Chaplain.

September, 1960.

Printed at the

Royal Albert Hospital,

Lancaster